UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice DCP-3**

For: State Offices

Establishing Fruit and Vegetable (FAV) and Wild Rice Double-Cropping Regions

Diane Shaw

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

1 Overview

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Background

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the Act), Section 1106(b)(1) provides that the planting of the following commodities on base acres is prohibited unless the commodity is destroyed before harvest:

- fruits
- vegetables, other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas
- wild rice.

Exception:

Double-cropping covered commodities or peanuts with wild rice, fruits, or vegetables shall be permitted in any region in which there is a history of this double-cropping.

In 1996, STC's designated FAV double-cropping regions in which FAV's and upland cotton, rice, corn, grain sorghum, barley, wheat, or oats met the definition of double-cropping.

The number of regions designated under the Agricultural Market Transition Act as double-cropping regions may change because the Act:

- includes peanuts and additional covered commodities with which FAV's may be planted in a double-cropping situation
- treats wild rice the same as FAV's with respect to establishing double-cropping regions.

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Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2002	State Offices

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1 Overview (Continued)

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Purpose

This notice provides:

- definitions to be used in designating FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions
- instructions to STC's to designate FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions
- a deadline for submitting the designations to DAFP for publication in FR.

2 Definitions for Designating FAV and Wild Rice Double-Cropping Regions

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Definitions

The following definitions shall be used by STC's when designating FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions. These definitions are applicable to designating FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions **only** and shall **not** be used for any other purpose.

- <u>Covered commodities</u> means wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, rice, soybeans, sesame, crambe, flax, sunflowers, safflowers, rapeseed, canola, and mustard.
- <u>Double-cropping FAV's and wild rice with covered commodities or peanuts</u> means the planting **and harvesting** of a covered commodity or peanuts in cycle with the planting **and harvesting** of a fruit, vegetable, or wild rice on the **same acreage** in a 12-month period with the ability to plant **and harvest** the same 2 crops in the immediately succeeding 12-month period, under normal growing conditions.

3 STC Action

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Action Required

A designated FAV or wild rice double-cropping region:

- must be an entire county
- border must follow the county lines
- must be determined on a county-by-county basis
- shall not be an area greater than the entire county.

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3 STC Action (Continued)

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Action Required (Continued)

A portion of a county **cannot** be designated as a region. An entire State **cannot** be designated as a region. All designated FAV double-cropping regions will be published in FR. **After STC-designated FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions are published in FR, no additional regions shall be designated.**

The importance of correctly designating FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions cannot be overemphasized. The designation of a county as a FAV or wild rice double-cropping region will impact payment program compliance for producers in the county.

STC's shall designate FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions according to this table.

Step	Action	
1	In consultation with CSREES, Land Grant Universities, and other agencies or organizations, STC's shall determine whether it is customary to plant FAV's or wild rice in a double-cropping situation with a covered commodity or peanuts.	
	STC shall make the determination on a county-by-county basis using the definitions in paragraph 2.	
	Important: Determinations shall be based on the planting history for the county before the 2002 crop year.	
2	Designate the counties as FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions by:	
	documenting the designated counties, and the sources used to designate the counties, in the STC minutes	
	• submitting to DAFP, as soon as possible, but not later than June 28, 2002, the list of counties designated as FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions by STC.	
	Note: STC shall submit designated FAV and wild rice double-cropping regions to Virgil Ireland by either of the following:	
	 FAX at 202-690-3632 e-mail at Virgil_Ireland@wdc.usda.gov. 	

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